

## INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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1. The representative in Prague of the Soviet State Trading Monopoly Promsyrimport (for iron and steel) is Kochetkov (fnu). He has occupied this post for about three years. His predecessor was Gorshunov (fnu). Kochetkov has an office in the Commercial Department of the Soviet Embassy in Prague. He is shortly to be transferred, probably back to Moscow. He has the right at any time to enter any enterprise which is producing iron and steel exports for the USSR.
2. There is a resident Soviet inspector attached to a number of enterprises working on important exports for the USSR. He has an office of his own in the works and can move about the workshops and offices as he likes. His task is to see that work on Soviet orders proceeds with adequate speed and efficiency and to refuse to allow any products to leave the works en route for the USSR, which he thinks are below standard.
3. The resident Soviet inspector for the New Klement Gottwald Foundry at Kuncice and the Vitkovice Klement Gottwald Iron Works at Ostrava is Krylov (fnu). He has been there since the latter part of 1954. His predecessor, name not remembered, was there for some years. Krylov has a well-appointed apartment for which the works pay.
4. The resident Soviet inspector for the Gustav Kliment Pipe Rolling Mills at Chomutov and the United Steel Works (SONP) at Kladno is named Lyzenko (fnu). He has been in Czechoslovakia since the summer of 1954.
5. At least three Soviet advisers are permanently attached to the State Planning Commission, and it is believed in official industrial circles that there are two or three such advisers in each ministry. They play no overt role in affairs.
6. Since early 1954, the Party leaders in the Czech foreign trade corporations have emphasized that the Czechs have a fully equal status with the Russians and that this must not be forgotten when trade is being discussed. Those who stand up to Soviet bullying over delivery terms, prices, etc., often find that they win their

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points, but in general it is thought that the Russians have it their own way.

7. There is undoubtedly disappointment and dissatisfaction on the part of the senior Communist officials in industry and foreign trade at the hard bargains driven by the Russians when fixing contracts, and even convinced Communist officials do not always conceal this when talking to those they know to be nominal Communists.
8. However, the recent agreement by Moscow to consider a large reduction in the price of pig iron, which will almost certainly lead to an actual reduction, together with a somewhat less truculent attitude on the part of Soviet officials in Czechoslovakia which has been apparent in recent months, leads to the belief that their tough commercial and industrial policy towards the Czechs may be undergoing some degree of modification.

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